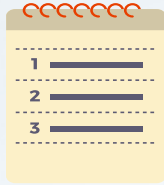


# Boating Safety



## Complete It

Fill out a float plan and leave it with at least one person on land. Download a DNR float plan: <http://www.dnr.sc.gov/boating/forms/pdf/DNRfloatplan.pdf>



## Check the Weather

Continue to check the weather once on the water. Pay attention to wind, sky color, sudden drops in temperature, or other changes that may indicate stormy weather.



## Wear It

Everyone on board needs a **U.S. Coast Guard-approved** life jacket. It should fit snugly without being tight.



## Know Navigation Aids

Follow all buoys and navigation aids. Navigation rules are the driving rules on the water. Learn more: <http://www.uscgboating.org/regulations/navigation-rules.php>



## Boat Sober

Do not use alcohol/drugs while operating a boat. Boating under the influence is dangerous and illegal. **Alcohol is the main contributing cause in fatal boating accidents.**



## Stay Fire Safe

Many home fire prevention activities also apply to boats. Keep a **U.S. Coast Guard-approved** fire extinguisher on board in case of electrical fires (a common cause of boat fires). Create and practice a fire escape plan. Install a CO alarm on boats where people may sleep.



Check the fit of a life jacket by making a "touchdown" signal. If the life jacket hits the chin or ears, it may be too big or the straps may be too loose.

**FIRE SAFE**  
**South Carolina**



A COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION PROGRAM